

FY07 CDEP (Climate Test Bed)

Projected funding availability: approximately \$200,000

NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) and the NOAA Climate Program Office jointly initiated the pilot phase of the NOAA Climate Test Bed (CTB) at NCEP. The goal of the CTB is to accelerate the transition of research advancements into improved NOAA operational climate forecasts, products and applications. The Climate Test Bed will provide an operational testing environment to support short-term competitive applied research and development projects that will result in a direct influence on operational methodologies, and/or new guidance products or techniques leading to improved quality and applicability of operational forecasts. Scientists from the broad research community, other NOAA organizations and NCEP are expected to jointly carry out competitive CTB projects. In FY2006, NOAA initiated three competitive pilot CTB projects. Final testing, validation and decision on acceptance for operational implementation of the new guidance products or techniques will be the responsibility of, and at the sole discretion of, the operational forecast center(s). For further details on the Climate Test Bed, visit <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/ctb/>

In FY07, NOAA intends to initiate one to two additional competitive pilot CTB projects with limited resources redirected from other programs. CTB projects supported under this solicitation are expected to influence NOAA climate forecast operations at the Climate Prediction Center in two to three years.

Prospective investigators are strongly encouraged to submit a letter of intent (LOI) by the published deadline. The CTB Science Management Team (Visit <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/ctb/> on the CTB science management team) will review each LOI, based solely on the criterion of ***Importance/Relevance and Applicability***.

All PIs will be notified whether a full proposal is encouraged or discouraged based on the review of their LOI. If a full proposal is encouraged, NCEP is committed to collaborate in the project should the full proposal be recommended for support by the competitive merit review. For each encouraged LOI, the CTB science management team will name a NCEP scientist as the point of contact (POC) to discuss with the PI on NCEP's contribution and commitment to the prospective project, when developing the full proposal. If the resulting full proposal is recommended for support by the competitive merit review, the NCEP POC will be working with the PI through out the project and be responsible for any necessary testing of the new techniques in the operational environment.

This solicitation is intended to support competitive transition projects led by scientists from the research community outside NOAA operational center(s). Proposals led by PIs from NOAA operational center(s) will be discouraged.

Proposals should not request salary support for Federal PIs and co-PIs from CTB funds. The total budget request for each proposal should not exceed \$200K per year.

Funding request by NOAA operational center(s) for collaboration in the project (if any) should **NOT** be included in the proposal submission into the ***Grants.Gov***. Instead, a separate budget and budget justification for NOAA operational center's request should be submitted directly to the CDEP program manager.

Each Supported project under CTB will be funded through a Cooperative Agreement (CA).